

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 462

By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Jon Allen Collins on the occasion of his retirement as a member of the Sumner County Election Commission.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who in their years of public service have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, one such outstanding individual is Jon Allen Collins who, having served with distinction throughout his tenure as an educator, coach, banker, and county official, will begin a much deserved retirement from his post with the Sumner County Election Commission, which he has served with the utmost integrity; and

WHEREAS, appointed by the State Election Commission, Mr. Collins has diligently upheld the mission of the Sumner County Election Commission by keeping the ballot pure and secure so that legally registered voters are allowed to vote, securing a correct and accurate count of the ballots cast, and allowing voters the freedom to cast their vote in secret without fear, intimidation, or influence; and

WHEREAS, from an early age, Jon Allen Collins learned the value of service to others, a principle that has played an important and pivotal role throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, as a graduate of Sumner County High School, he attended Middle Tennessee University (MTSU) and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Education in 1959; and

WHEREAS, also a graduate of Officers' Training Corps at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and a graduate of the 1<sup>st</sup> Army Aviation Flight School at MTSU, Mr. Collins obtained from his education a set of leadership skills that would serve him well in all his future endeavors; and

WHEREAS, furthering his education, he obtained his Master of Arts degree in Education from Western Kentucky University (WKU) in 1976, and he completed thirty additional credits in Administration from WKU as well; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Collins served with acumen and alacrity as an educator and a highly successful football coach from 1959 until 1993, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues, students, and players alike; and

WHEREAS, for several years he served as a teacher and head football coach at Jackson County Central High School, White House High School, and Portland High School, leaving his indelible mark on each institution; and

WHEREAS, during his distinguished tenure as a head football coach, he led his teams to numerous victories, several bowl appearances and state playoff games, and the state finals twice; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to honors and accolades, he was recognized for his exemplary coaching abilities with several prestigious awards, including *The Tennessean* Mid-State Coach of the Year Award in 1972, and he was selected to serve as a coach for the Tennessee East-West Football All-Star game in 1973; he was also named the Region Coach of the Year four times, the District Coach of the Year two times, and the Red River Conference Coach of the Year five times; and

WHEREAS, retiring from coaching in 1985, he finished his thirty-four year career in education as Assistant Principal of Portland Middle School; and

WHEREAS, after leaving the education field, he served with the Gray Line Tour Company - Historical Tour for three years before his five-year tenure with Cumberland Bank as Vice-President of Business Development and Community Relations; and

WHEREAS, a man of integrity who embodies the best of his community, Jon Allen Collins has volunteered his time and energies to a number of civic and historical organizations, including the Lions Club, the Portland Quarterback Club, the Sumner County Historical Society, the Highland Rim Historical Society, and he has served as a Sunday School teacher at the First Baptist Church and the radio announcer for the Portland Panther football team; and

WHEREAS, a consummate professional and public servant, Mr. Collins has dedicated his leadership abilities to the welfare of the citizens of Sumner County through service not only

as a member of the Sumner County Election Commission, but also as a member of Sumner County 911 Board, a member of the Sumner County Highway Improvement Ad Hoc Committee, a member of the Sumner County Economic Development Committee, and as a Sumner County Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Mr. Collins is most appreciative of the love and companionship he shares with his wife, Geraldine Chaffin Collins, their three children, Brent, Deborah, and Kris, and their six grandchildren, Erin, Gerri, Katie, Luke, T. J., and Jake; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Jon Allen Collins has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the citizens of Sumner County and the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Jon Allen Collins our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, applaud his outstanding service to the Sumner County Election Commission, and wish him every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.